



PATENT
Docket No.: 176/60930 (2-11150-984)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : David P. Biss, Thomas G. Brown, and
Kathleen S. Youngworth

Examiner:
R.D. Shafer

Serial No. : 09/759,913

Art Unit:
2872

Cnfrm. No. : 2814

Filed : January 12, 2001

For : AN APPARATUS FOR PRODUCTION OF
INHOMOGENEOUSLY POLARIZED
OPTICAL BEAMS FOR USE IN
ILLUMINATION AND A METHOD
THEREOF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202
Box:

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 25, 2002, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group 1 corresponding to FIG. 1 for a polarization converter and a method for producing inhomogeneously polarized optical beams as set forth in claims 62-66 and claims 77-81, respectively, with traverse.

The Office has restricted claims 62-87 into Groups 1-3 corresponding to FIGS. 1-3, respectively, which illustrate three patentably distinct species of a polarization converter, with claims 62 and 77 being generic. In an earlier Restriction Requirement dated July 2, 2002, the Office restricted claims 1-87 into Groups A-D corresponding to FIGS. 1-4, respectively. In response, Applicants elected Group D, corresponding to FIG. 4, which includes claims 62-87 and which is being further restricted by the Office in the outstanding above-identified Restriction Requirement. Applicants submit that claims 1-9 and 19-32, which have been withdrawn from consideration by the Office, also read on the disclosed species illustrated by FIG. 1. Accordingly, the Office is requested to reconsider the

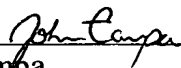
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outstanding above-identified Restriction Requirement and examine claims 1-9, 19-32, 62-66 and 77-81 together.

Applicants believe the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 25, 2003



John Campa
Registration No. 49,014

NIXON PEABODY LLP
Clinton Square, P.O. Box 31051
Rochester, New York 14603-1051
Telephone: (585) 263-1519
Facsimile: (585) 263-1600

